

A Collection of

Wise Quotations

Revised & Enlarged



Most collectors collect tangibles.
As a quotation collector, I collect wisdom,
life, invisible beauty, souls alive in ink.
(Terri Guillemets)



Quotes about Quotes

I love quotes because good quotes are vitamins for the brain!
(Patrick Driessen)



Precepts or maxims are of great weight; and a few useful ones at hand do more toward a happy life than whole volumes that we know not where to find. (Seneca)



The excellence of aphorisms consists not so much in the expression of some rare or abstruse sentiment, as in the comprehension of some useful truth in few words. (Samuel Johnson)



When a thing has been said and said well, have no scruple. Take it and copy it.
(Anatole France)



All of us encounter, at least once in our life, some individual who utters words that make us think forever. There are men whose phrases are oracles; who can condense in one sentence the secrets of life; who blurt out an aphorism that forms a character, or illustrates an existence. (Benjamin Disraeli)



The only way to read a book of aphorisms without being bored is to open it at random and, having found something that interests you, close the book and meditate. (Prince de Ligne)



Quotations help us remember the simple yet profound truths that give life perspective and meaning. When it comes to life's most important lessons, we can all use gentle reminders. (Chriswell Freeman)

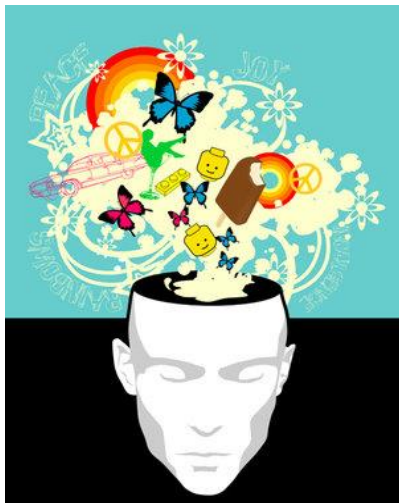




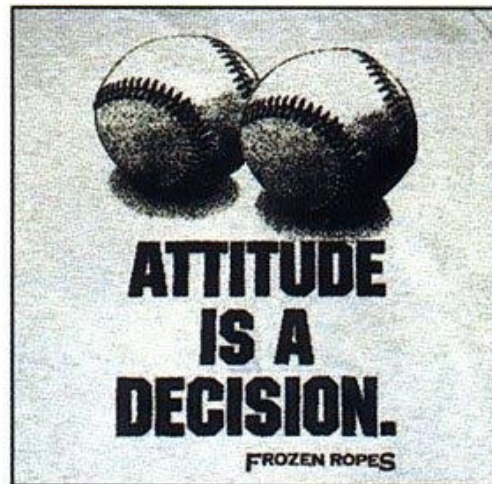
When you arise in the morning,
think of what a precious
privilege it is to be alive -
to breathe, to think,
to enjoy, to love.
(Marcus Aurelius)



Remember this - that very little
is needed to make a happy life.
It is all in your way of thinking.
(Marcus Aurelius)



The happiness of your life
depends upon the quality
of your thoughts.
(Marcus Aurelius)



Be vigilant; guard your mind
against negative thoughts.
(Buddha)



Things are not good or bad, but thinking makes them so.
(William Shakespeare)



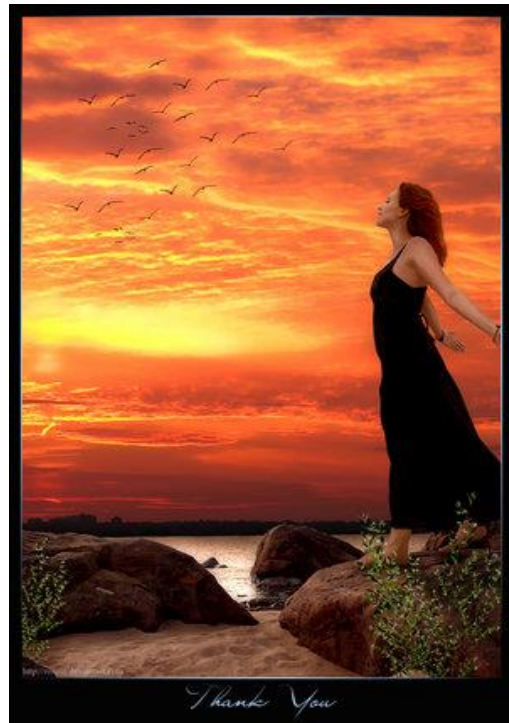
The greatest discovery of my generation is that a human being can alter his life by altering the attitude of his mind.
(William James)



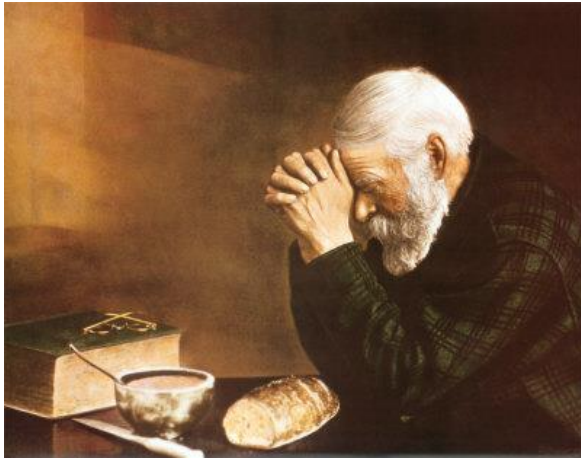
Life is a series of choices and sometimes your only choice is what your attitude will be.
(Shantideva)



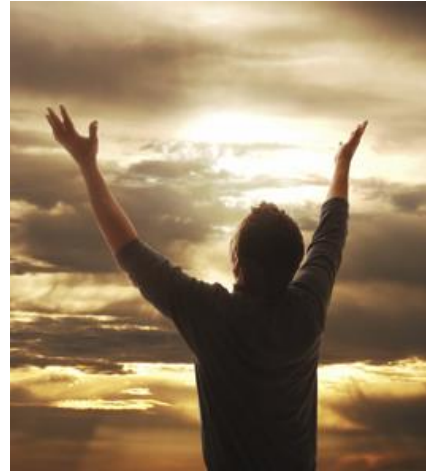
I am always content with what happens; for I know that what God chooses is better than what I choose.
(Epictetus)



If the only prayer you say in your life is "Thank You," that will suffice.
(Meister Eckhart)



Gratitude is the single most important ingredient to living a successful and fulfilled life.
(Jack Canfield)



He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has.
(Epictetus)



Take full account of the excellencies which you possess, and in gratitude remember how you would hanker after them, if you had them not.
(Marcus Aurelius)



Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has many; not on your misfortunes, of which all men have some.
(Charles Dickens)



Blessings are oftentimes not valued
till they are gone.
(Thomas Fuller)

感

感 GRATITUDE

Within the characters for thanks
and feelings are embedded the
symbols for heart and speech.
From the heart, with feeling,
I express my gratitude.

Do not spoil what you have by
desiring what you have not;
remember that what you now
have was once among the things
you only hoped for.
(Epicurus)

At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person.
Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those
who have lighted the flame within us.
(Albert Schweitzer)



Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy;
they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.
(Marcel Proust)

Ingratitude is the soul's enemy. Like a hot, parching wind, it dries up the well-spring of holiness, the dew of mercy, and the streams of grace.
(Saint Bernard)



There is a legend of a man who found the barn where Satan kept his seeds ready to be sown in the human heart, and on finding the seeds of discouragement more numerous than others, learned that those seeds could be made to grow almost anywhere. When Satan was questioned he reluctantly admitted that there was one place in which he could never get them to thrive.
“And where is that?” asked the man. Satan replied sadly,
“In the heart of a grateful man.”



The more I understand the mind and the human experience, the more I begin to suspect there is no such thing as unhappiness; there is only ungratefulness.
(Steve Maraboli)



Giving thanks for abundance
is greater than the abundance itself.
(Rumi)



Does every creature have a soul?
Surely they do; for anything God
has touched will have life forever,
and all creatures He has held.
(Saint Francis of Assisi)



No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.
Hesop

All creatures are God's children,
and those dearest to God are
those who treat his children
kindly.
(Mohammed)



“Men have forgotten this truth”
said the fox. “But you must not
forget it. You become
responsible, forever, for what
you have tamed.”
(Antonie de Saint-Exupery)



The fish in the water is silent, the
animal on the earth is noisy, the
bird in the air is singing. But man
has in him the silence of the sea,
the noise of the earth and the music
of the air.
(Tagore)



If the extension of your compassion
does not include all living beings,
then you will be unable to find
peace by yourself.
(Albert Schweitzer)



I think dogs are the most amazing
creatures; they give unconditional love.
For me they are the role model
for being alive.
(Gilda Radner)



Dog - a kind of additional or subsidiary
Deity designed to catch the overflow
and surplus of the world's worship.
(Ambrose Bierce)

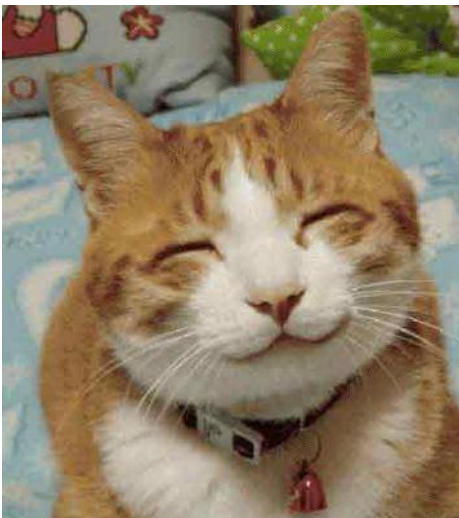


Until you have loved an animal,
part of your soul will have
remained dormant.
(Anatole France)



Prowling his own quiet backyard
or asleep by the fire, he is still only
a whisker away from the wilds.
(Jean Burden)

Thousands of years ago,
cats were worshipped as gods.
Cats have never forgotten this.
(Anonymous)



Cats always know whether
people like or dislike them.
They do not always care
enough to do anything
about it.
(Winifred Carriere)

In order to keep a true perspective
of one's importance, everyone should
have a dog that will worship him
and a cat that will ignore him.
(Dereke Bruce)



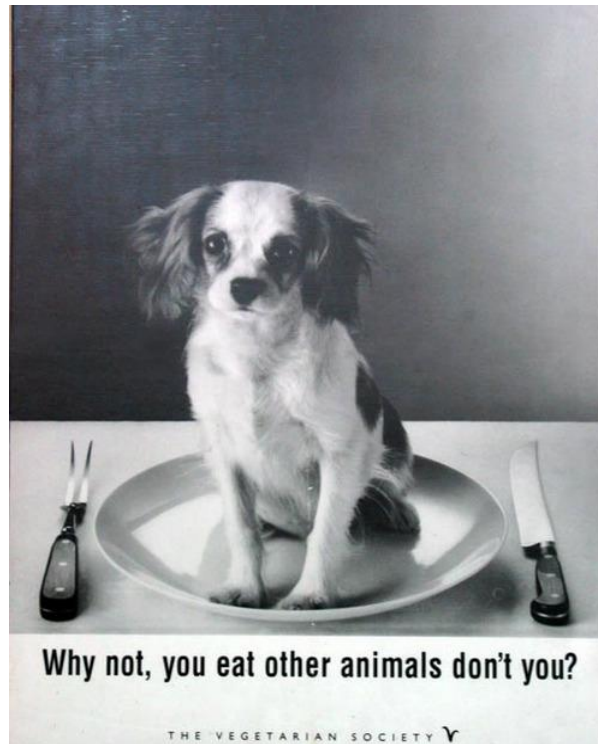
A fine horse or a beautiful woman, I cannot look at them unmoved,
even now when seventy winters have chilled my blood.
(Sir Arthur Conan Doyle)



He who harms animals has not understood or renounced deeds of sin. Those whose minds are at peace and who are free from passions do not desire to live at the expense of others.
(Acharanga Sutra)



Eagles fly alone;
sheep herd together.
(Sufi saying)



Animals are my friends –
and I don't eat my friends.
(George Bernard Shaw)



Beauty is the gift of God.
(Aristotle)



Beauty is indeed a good gift of God;
but that the good may not think it a
great good, God dispenses it
even to the wicked.
(Saint Augustine)



To me, fair friend, you never can be old,
for as you were when first your eye I eyed,
such seems your beauty still.
(William Shakespeare)



Taking joy in life
is a woman's best
cosmetic.
(Rosalind Russell)



Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything that is beautiful; for beauty is God's handwriting - a wayside sacrament. Welcome it in every fair face, in every fair sky, in every fair flower, and thank God for it as a cup of blessing.

(Ralph Waldo Emerson)



A thing of beauty is a joy forever.

(John Keats)



Little by little God takes away human beauty: little by little the sapling withers. Go, recite "*To whomever we give a length of days, we also cause them to decline.*" Seek the spirit; don't set your heart on bones!

(Rumi)



Outward beauty, loveliness of form...is of no lasting worth. Be not allured by this false show. They are fleeting forms that will soon vanish and be no more.

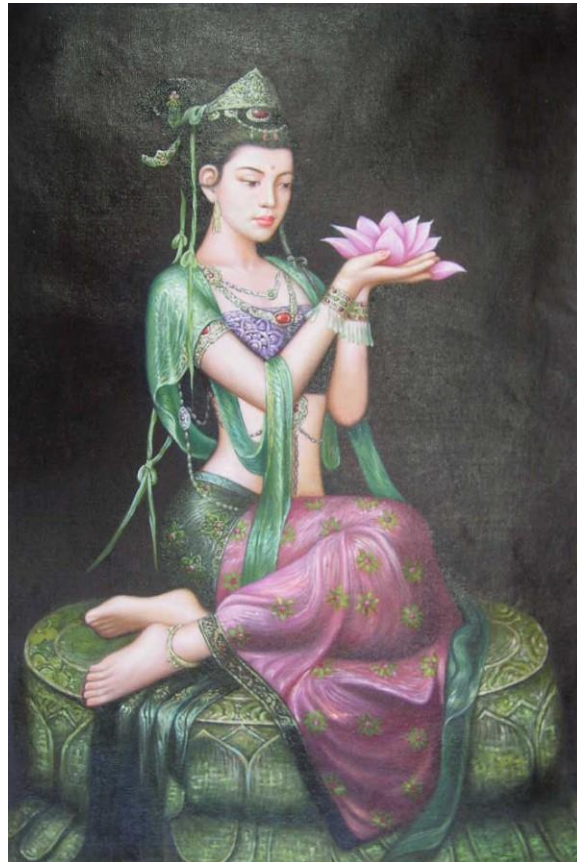
(Baba Sawan Singh)



Genius on earth is God giving Himself. Whenever a masterpiece appears, a distribution of God is taking place.
(Victor Hugo)



Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; It is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us.
(Martin Luther)





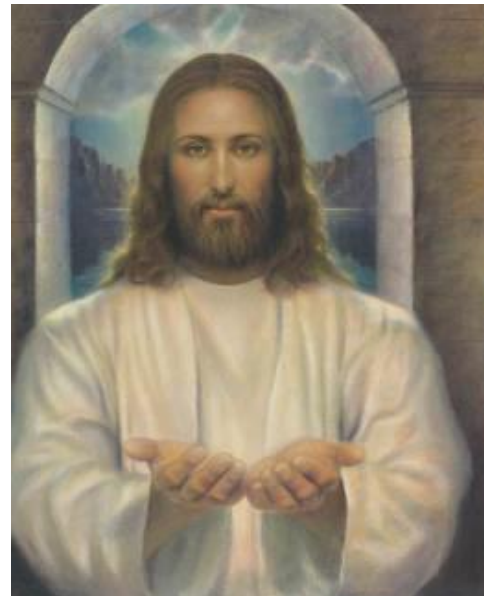
The moment you have in your heart
this extraordinary thing called love
and feel the depth, the delight, the
ecstasy of it, you will discover that
for you the world is transformed.
(J. Krishnamurti)



Love says, "I will, I will take
care of you," to everything
that is near.
(Hafiz)



If destiny comes to help you,
love will come to meet you.
A life without love
isn't a life.
(Rumi)



A new commandment I give to
you: Love one another. As I
have loved you, so you must
love one another.
(Jesus Christ)



They do not love who do not
show their love.
(Shakespeare)



If I had to choose between
loving you and breathing
I would use my last breath
to say "I love you".



To the world you may be one
person, but to one person
you may be the world.



Time is a factory where everyone
slaves away, earning enough love
to break their own chains.
(Hafiz)



One of the oldest human needs is having someone to wonder where you are when you don't come home at night.
(Margaret Mead)



There is only one happiness in life, to love and be loved.
(George Sand)



You come to love not by finding the perfect person, but by seeing an imperfect person perfectly.
(Sam Keen)



Mutual love,
the Crown of all our bliss.
(John Milton)



Since love grows within you,
so beauty grows.
For love is the beauty of the soul.
(Saint Augustine)



If I know what love is,
it is because of you.
(Herman Hesse)



Love is an act of endless forgiveness.
(Peter Ustinov)

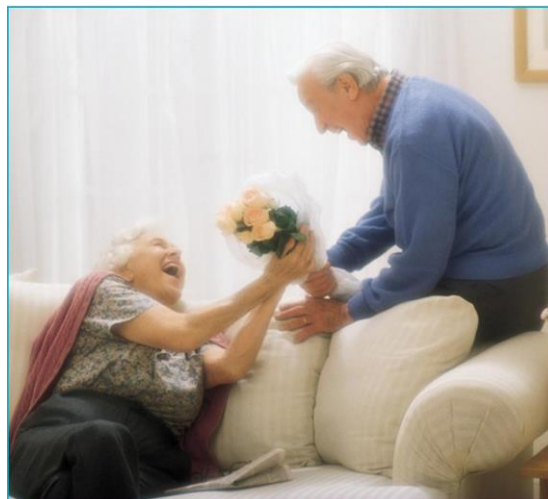


To get the full value of joy you must
have someone to divide it with.
(Mark Twain)

I have never met a person whose greatest need was anything other than real, unconditional love. You can find it in a simple act of kindness toward someone who needs help. There is no mistaking love. You feel it in your heart. It is the common fiber of life, the flame that heals our soul, energizes our spirit and supplies passion to our lives. It is our connection to God and to each other.
(Elizabeth Kubler-Ross)

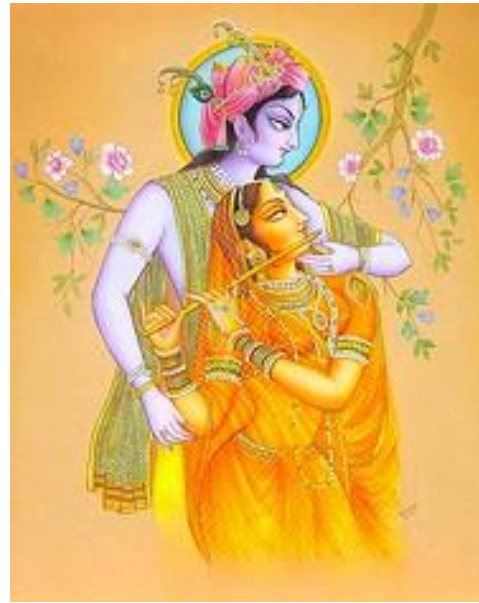


People who return from near death experiences tell us that in the seeming closing moments of their earthly lives they learned that the most important thing we can do while we are here is to learn to love.
(Raymond A. Moody, Jr.)





Love the whole world
as a mother loves
her only child.
(Buddha)



Come on sweetheart let's
adore one another before
there is no more of
you and me.
(Rumi)



He who wants to do good knocks
at the gate; he who loves finds
the gate open.
(Tagore)



The best portion of a good man's life
is his little, nameless, unremembered
acts of kindness.
(William Wordsworth)

I have perceiv'd that to be with those I like is enough,
To stop in company with the rest at evening is enough,
To be surrounded by beautiful, curious, breathing, laughing flesh is enough,
To pass among them or touch any one, or rest my arm ever so lightly round his
or her neck for a moment, what is this then?
I do not ask any more delight, I swim in it as in a sea.



There is something in staying close to men and women and looking on them,
and in the contact and odor of them, that pleases the soul well,
all things please the soul, but these please the soul well.
(Walt Whitman)



Birds initially had no desire to fly,
what really happened was this:
God once sat close to them playing
music. When He left they missed
Him so much their great longing
sprouted wings, needing to search
the sky. Listen, nothing evolves
us like love.

(Hafiz)



There is a magnet in your heart
that will attract true friends.
That magnet is unselfishness,
thinking of others first.

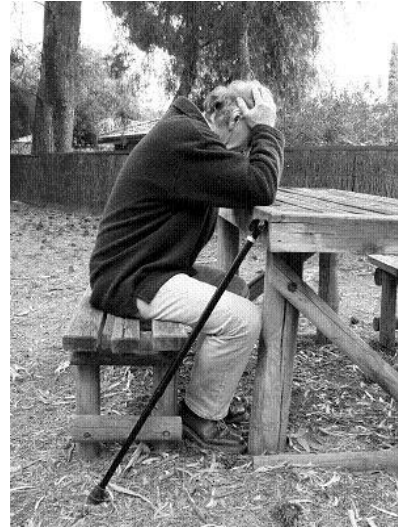
(Yogananda)



I may be able to speak the language of men and even of angels, but if I have no love, my speech is no more than a noisy gong or a clanging bell. I may have the gift of inspired preaching; I may have all knowledge and understand all secrets; I may have all the faith needed to move mountains--but if I have no love, I am nothing. I may give away everything I have, and even give up my body to be burned--but if I have no love, this does me no good. Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or conceited or proud; love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs; love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth. Love never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail. Love is eternal. There are inspired messages, but they are temporary; there are gifts of speaking in strange tongues, but they will cease; there is knowledge, but it will pass. For our gifts of knowledge and of inspired messages are only partial; but when what is perfect comes, then what is partial will disappear. When I was a child, my speech, feelings, and thinking were all those of a child; now that I am a man, I have no more use for childish ways. What we see now is like a dim image in a mirror; then we shall see face-to-face. What I know now is only partial; then it will be complete--as complete as God's knowledge of me. Meanwhile these three remain: Faith, Hope, and Love; and the greatest of these is Love. (Saint Paul)



What is the worst of woes that wait
on age? What stamps the wrinkle
deeper on the brow? To view each
loved one blotted from life's page,
and be alone on earth, as I am now.
(Lord Byron)



I am in the night.
There is a being who has
gone away
and carried the heavens
with her.
(Victor Hugo)



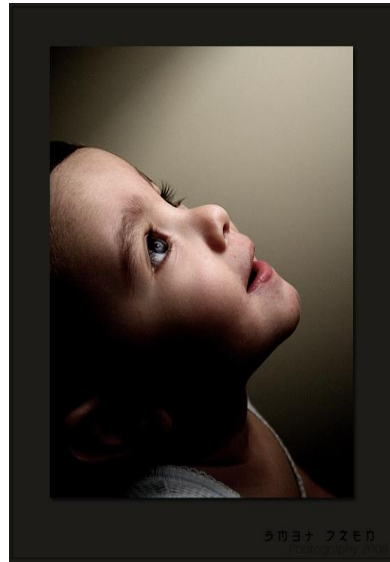
My heart is ever at your service.
(William Shakespeare)



Valdaro, Italy; 5,000 - 6,000 yrs. ago
Safely in each other's arms,
to bid the rest of time. Finding
eternal love so many seek to find.
(Tracey Shierling)



Making the decision to have a child is momentous. It is to decide forever to have your heart go walking around outside your body.
(Elizabeth Stone)



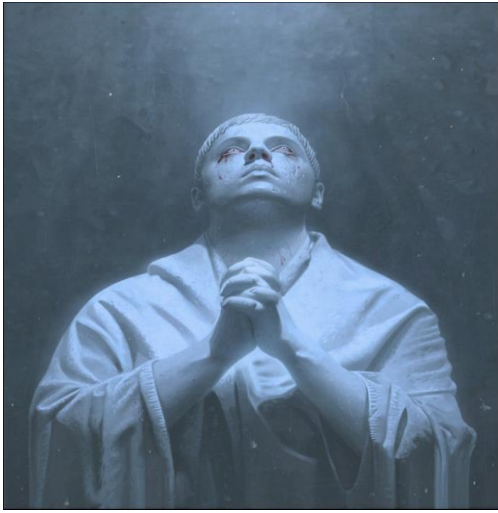
Children are natural Zen masters; their world is brand new in each and every moment.
(John Bradshaw)



A baby is something you carry inside you for nine months, in your arms for three years and in your heart till the day you die.
(Mary Mason)



The babe in arms is a channel through which the energies we call fate, love and reason visibly stream.
(Ralph Waldo Emerson)



The longing to go back to the Source is present in each being from the very time that it is separated from the Source by the veil of ignorance.
(Meher Baba)



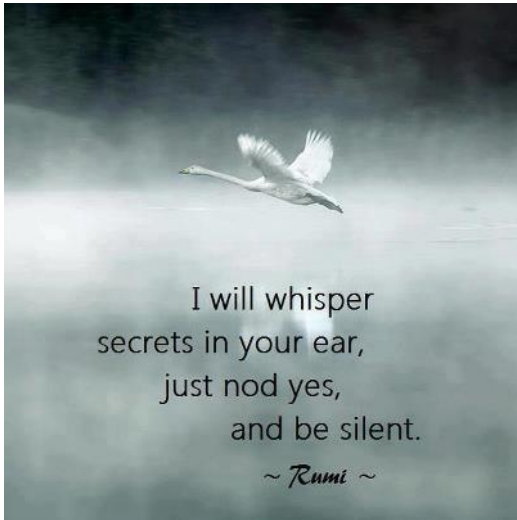
Thou hast made us for Thyself and our hearts can find no rest except in Thee.
(Saint Augustine)



The soul is made of love and must ever strive to return to love. Therefore, it can never find rest nor happiness in other things. It must lose itself in love. By its very nature it must seek God, who is love.
(Mechthild of Magdeburg)



There is a void in your soul, ready to be filled. You feel it, don't you? You feel the separation from the Beloved. Invite Him to fill you up, embrace the fire.
(Rumi)



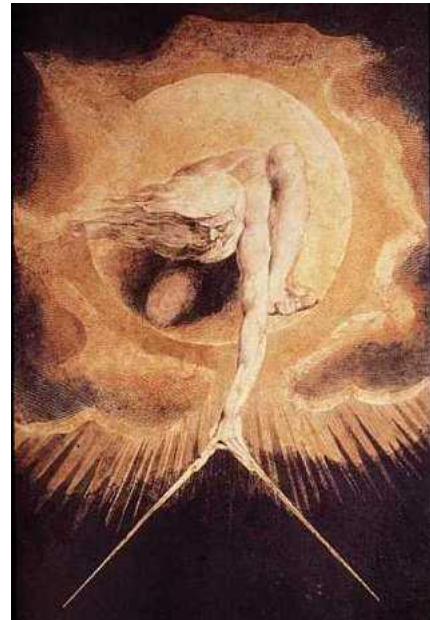
God gives us what we want
so that we may want what He has
to give us.
(Hazrat Inayat Khan)



You are subtle and without mark.
You are hidden even from the hidden.
(Rumi)



I would rather live my life as if there is
a God and die to find out there isn't
than live my life as if there isn't
and die to find out there is.
(Albert Camus)



Nothing is void of God;
He Himself fills His work.
(Seneca)



There is no one in this world who is not looking for God. Everyone is trudging along with as much dignity, courage and style as they possibly can.
(Hafiz)



That deep emotional conviction of the presence of a superior reasoning power, which is revealed in the incomprehensible universe, forms my idea of God.
(Albert Einstein)



O God, You seek those who hide from You, and hide from those who seek You!
(Saint Augustine)



To fall in love with God is the greatest of all romances; to seek Him, the greatest human achievement.
(Saint Augustine)



God loves each of us as if there were only one of us.
(Saint Augustine)



Something unknown is doing
we don't know what.



I cannot conceive how a man
could look up into the heavens
and say there is no God.
(Abraham Lincoln)



The acceptance of the
omnipresence of God leads to a
very profound conclusion. You
cannot be apart from Him under
any circumstances, for otherwise
it would mean there are some
places where He is not present,
which naturally, is absurd.
(Mouni Sadhu)



I could not say I believe. I know!
I have had the experience of being
gripped by something that is
stronger than myself, something
that people call God.
(Carl Jung)



Not an atom moves
except by God's Will.
(Ramana Maharshi)



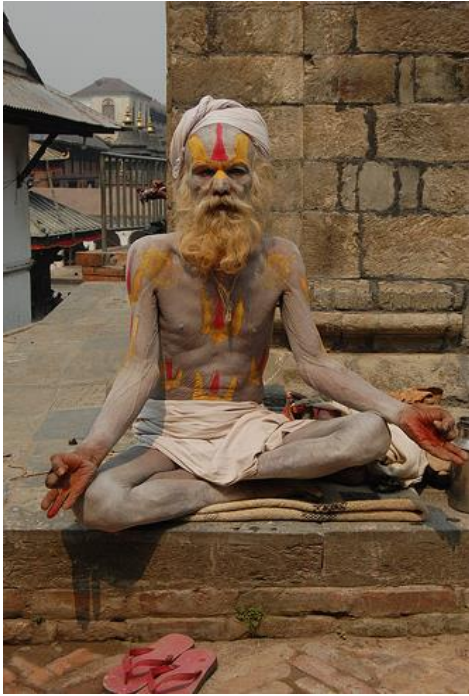
Without virtue,
God is only a word.
(Plotinus)



Sometimes I take my dog for a walk
and turn her loose in a field. When
I can't give her that freedom I feel
in debt. I hope God thinks like
that and is keeping track of all
the bliss He owes me!
(Rabia)



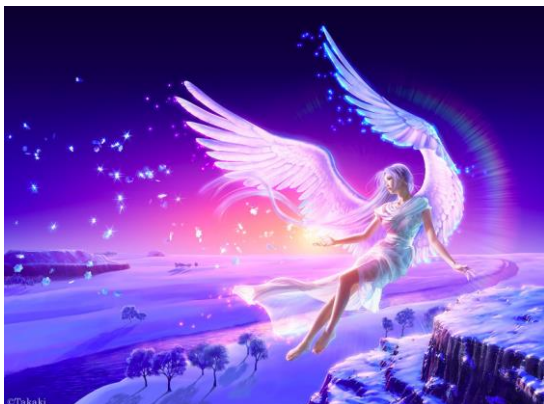
I have been all things unholy;
if God can work through me,
He can work through
anyone.
(Saint Francis of Assisi)



Come, join the honest company of the King's beggars - those gamblers, scoundrels and divine clowns who need Divine Love every night. Come, join the courageous who have no choice but to bet their entire world that God is real. (Hafiz)



To know the sweetness of the Infinite within us, that is the cause, the reason, the purpose, the only purpose of our being.
(Nicholas of Cusa)



We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience.
(Teilhard de Chardin)



You were darkness once, but now you are the Light of the Lord.
(Saint Paul)



In God alone is there primordial
and true Delight, and in all our
delights it is this Delight
that we are seeking.
(Saint Bonaventure)



To love one that is great,
is almost to be great one's self.
(Madame Necker)



The fullness of joy
is to behold God in everything
(Julian of Norwich)



God's gifts put man's best dreams
to shame.
(Elizabeth Barrett Browning)



Let God love you through others,
and let God love others
through you.
(D. M. Street)



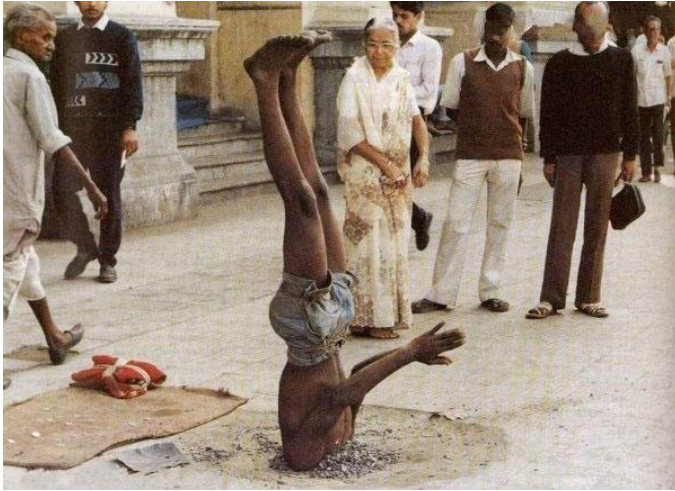
If you don't find God in the next person
you meet, it is a waste of time looking
for Him further.
(Mahatma Gandhi)



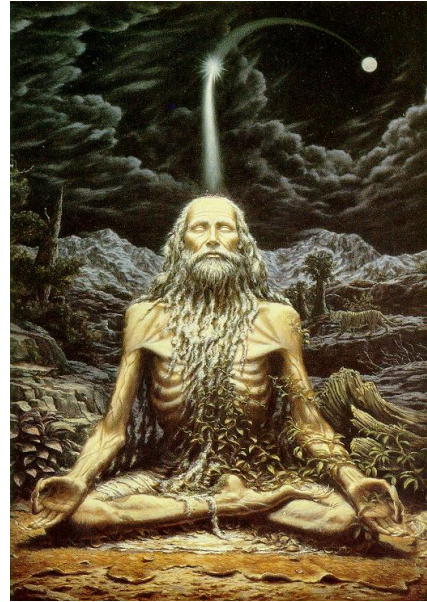
God travels with whoever looks
for Him, and having taken
the seeker by the hand, He
arouses him to go in search
of himself.
(Ansari of Herat)



Though we can't always see it at the time,
if we look upon events with some perspective,
we see things always happen for our best
interests. We are always being guided
in a way better than we know ourselves.
(Swami Satchidananda)



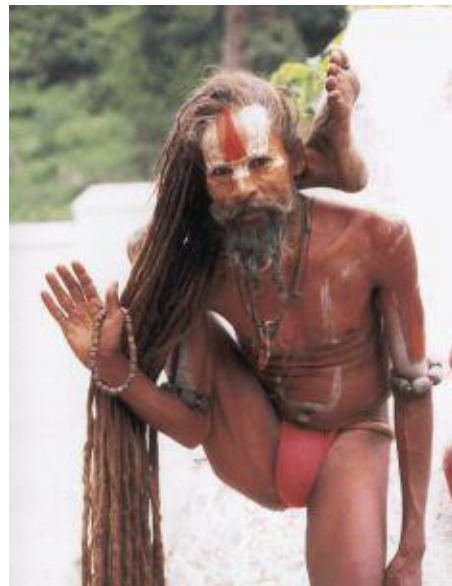
Such is the world, it is easily led away by nonsense; but when it hears of the Path of Truth, it rejects it as false.
(Kabir)



Those who seek the easy way do not seek the True Way.
(Dogen)



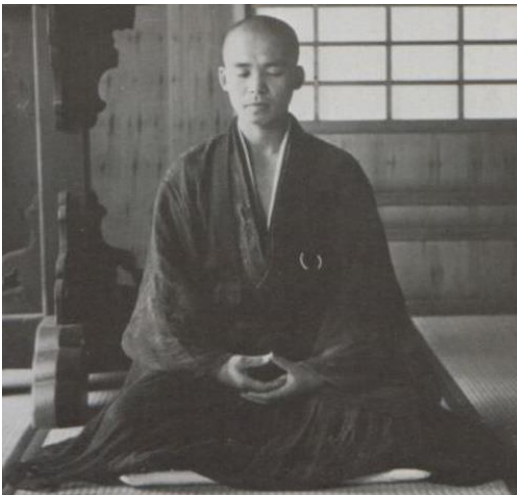
A man's most valuable trait is a judicious sense of what not to believe.
(Euripides)



Not all spiritual paths lead to the harmonious Oneness. Indeed, most are detours and distractions, nothing more.
(Lao-tzu)



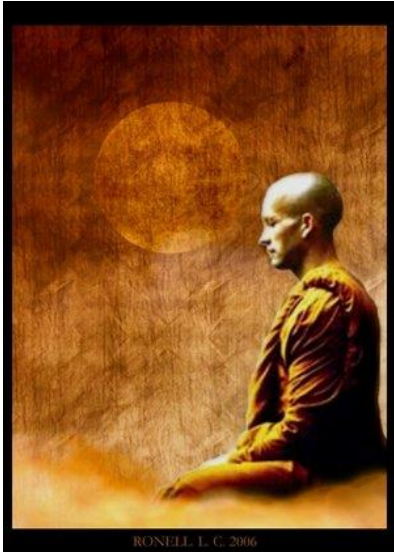
No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love Him.
(Saint Paul)



Sitting quietly, doing nothing
everything is achieved.
(Zen saying)



When meditation is mastered,
the mind is unwavering like
the flame of a lamp in a
windless place.
(Lord Krishna)



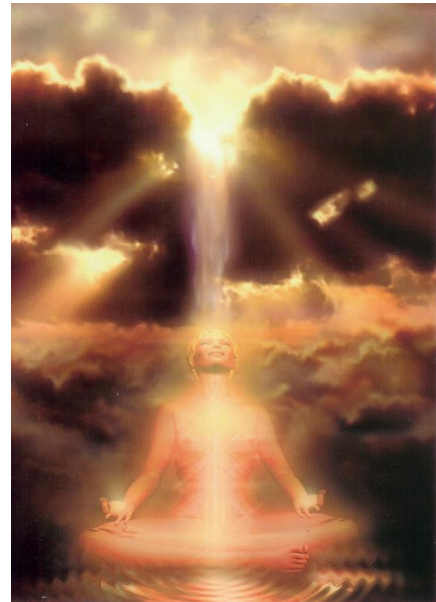
The thing we tell of
can never be found
by seeking, yet
only seekers find it.
(Bayezid Bistami)



Whoever believes he can reach God by
his own efforts toils in vain; whoever
believes he can reach God without effort
is merely a traveler on the road of intent.
(Abu Sa' id Al-Kharraz)



It is burning of the heart I want;
this burning which is everything,
more precious than a worldly empire,
because it calls God secretly,
in the night.
(Rumi)



I am nearer to you
than yourself to yourself.
(Rumi)



Why crawl with belief when with
a little more effort you can soar
by knowing?
(Shantidasa)



To believe in the Tao is easy;
to keep the Tao is difficult.
(Lao-tzu)

Meditation is in truth higher than thought. The earth seems to rest in silent meditation; and the waters and the mountains and the sky and the heavens seem all to be in meditation. Whenever a person attains greatness on this earth she has her reward according to her meditation.
(Upanishads)



The heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight,
but they while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night.
(Henry Wadsworth Longfellow)



Nature is my manifestation of God.
I go to nature every day for
inspiration in the day's work.
I follow in building the principles
which nature has used in its domain.
(Frank Lloyd Wright)



Nature is the art of God.
(Dante)



The pride of the peacock
is the glory of God.
(William Blake)



I believe that there is a subtle magnetism in Nature, which, if we unconsciously yield to it, will direct us aright.
(Henry David Thoreau)



Earth's crammed with heaven,
and every common bush
afire with God.
(Elizabeth Barrett Browning)



The day of my spiritual awakening
was the day I saw – and knew I saw –
all things in God and God in all things.
(Mechthild of Magdebur)



There was a time when meadow
grove, and stream, the earth,
and every common sight,
to me did seem appareled
in celestial light, the glory
and the freshness of a dream.
(William Wordsworth)



If the sight of the blue skies fills you with joy, if a blade of grass springing up in the fields has power to move you, if the simple things of nature have a message that you understand, rejoice, for your soul is alive.

(Eleonora Duse)

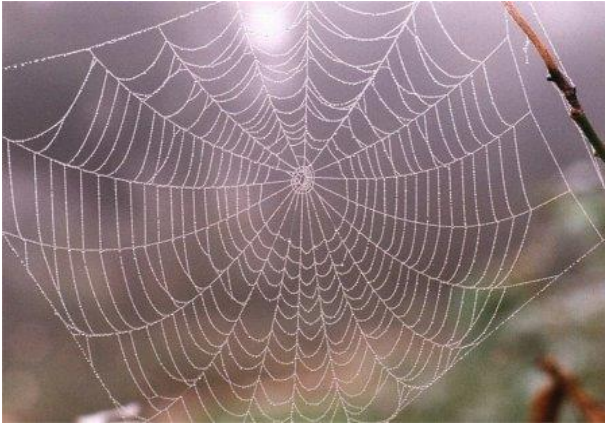
Live in each season as it passes; breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influence of the earth.

(Henry David Thoreau)



Climb the mountains and get their good tidings.
Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees.
The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy,
while cares will drop off like autumn leaves.

(John Muir)



In all things of nature there is
something of the marvelous.
(Aristotle)



To be interested in the changing
seasons is a happier state of mind
than to be hopelessly in love
with spring.
(George Santayana)



People from a planet without flowers
would think we must be mad with joy
the whole time to have such things
about us.
(Iris Murdoch)



I like trees because they seem
more resigned to the way
they have to live than other
things do.
(Willa Cather)



I persist on praising not the life
I lead, but that which I ought to
lead. I follow it at a mighty distance,
crawling.
(Seneca)



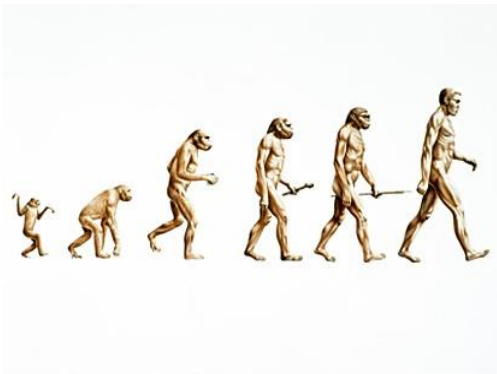
Every man in reality is two men.
The man he is, and the man he could be.
(Earl Nightingale)



There are two souls in my own
breast, and one is determined
to beat down the other.
(Johann Goethe)



You are the bird of happiness in the
magic of existence! What a pity
when you let yourself be
chained and caged.
(Rumi)



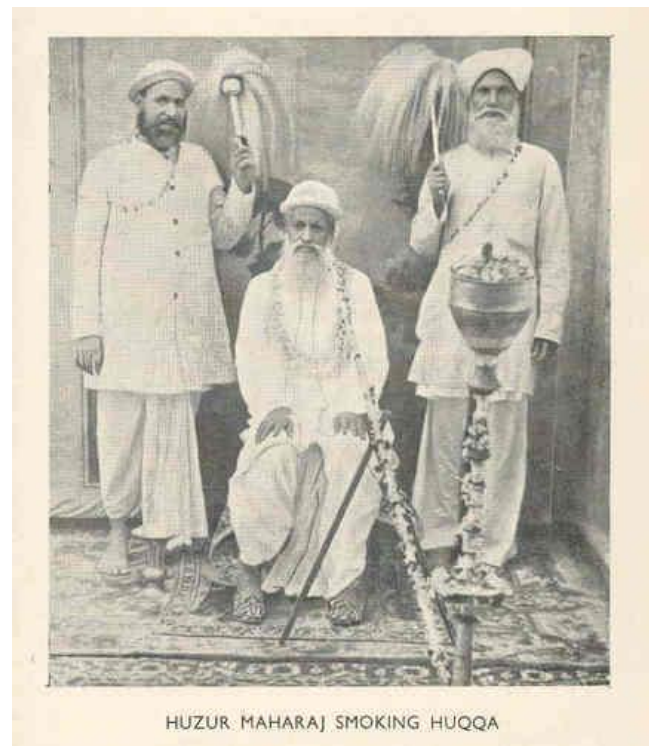
You are not here to change the world, the world is here to change you.
(Shantidasa)



All changes, even the most longed for, have their melancholy; for what we leave behind us is part of ourselves; we must die to one life before we can enter another.
(Anatole France)



Don't allow your animal nature to rule your reason.
(Rumi)



The intelligent desire self-control; children want candy!
(Rumi)



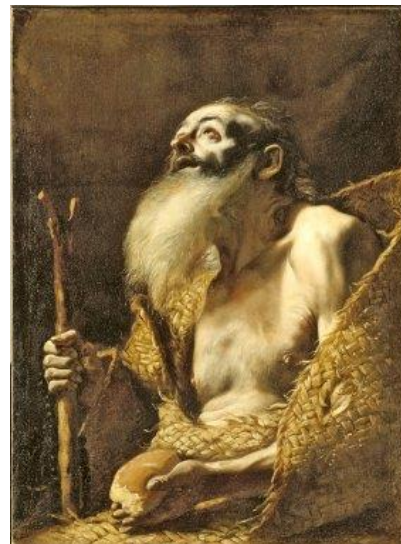
I count him braver who overcomes
his desires than him who conquers
his enemies; the hardest victory
is over self.
(Aristotle)



What is the demon? Your own mind.
It is not outside, this demon is inside;
that complicates the battle. You have
to go into yourself.
(Chidananda)



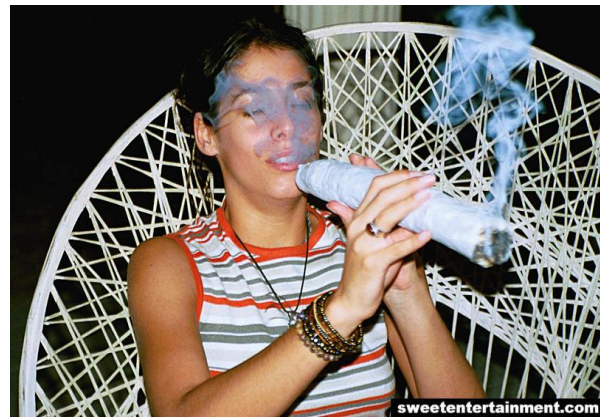
The wise choose freely
among preferences;
the deluded are driven
by cravings.
(Nami)



I am old enough to see how
little I have done in so much time
and how much I have to do
in so little.
(Kaye Smith)



Hell begins on the day when God grants us a clear vision of all that we might have achieved, of all the gifts which we have wasted, of all that we might have done which we did not do.
(Carlo Menotti)



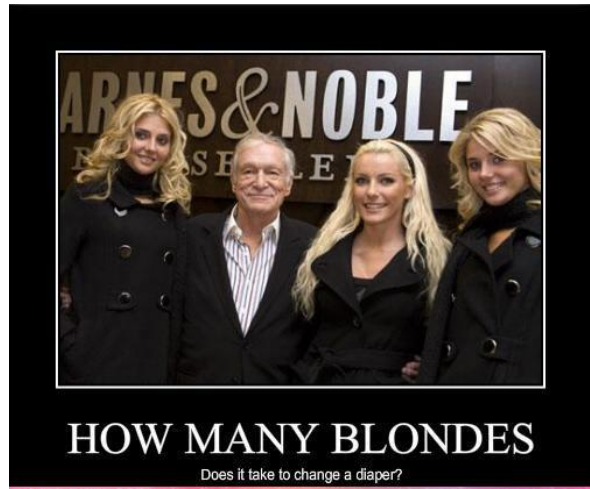
Defend me, God, from myself.
(Spanish prayer)



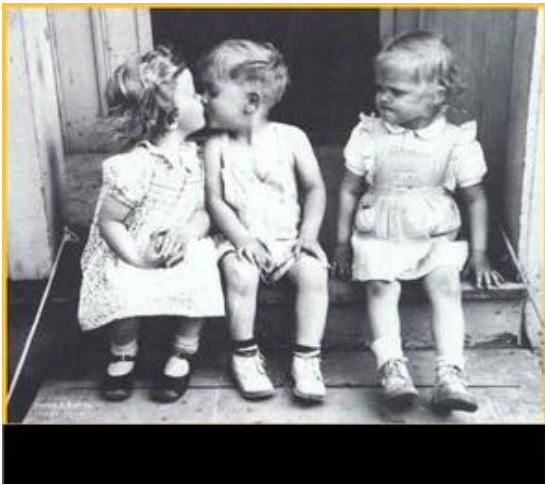
Greed is a fat demon with a small mouth and whatever you feed it is never enough.
(Janwillem van de Wetering)



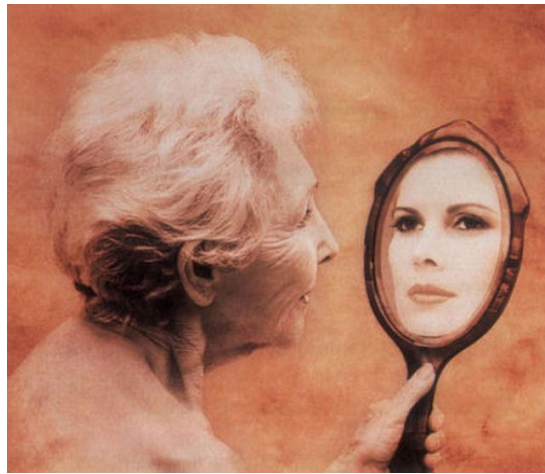
Of all longings and desires none is stronger than sex. Sex as a desire has no equal.
(Buddha)



Living with lust is like living shackled to a lunatic.
(Simon Blackburn)



Envy is simply being angry at being left out of the happiness of others.
(Hans-Ulrick Rieker)



God cannot be realized if there is the slightest trace of pride.
(Ramakrishna)



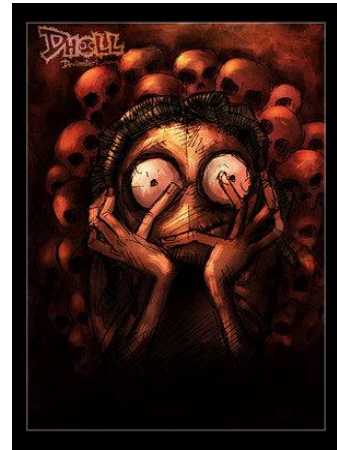
You will not be punished
for your anger,
you will be punished
by your anger.
(Buddha)



There is no sin or wrong that
gives a man such a foretaste
of hell in this life as anger.
(Saint Catherine of Siena)



As children tremble and fear everything
in the blind darkness, so we in the light
sometimes fear what is no more to be
feared than the things children in the
dark hold in terror and imagine
will come true.
(Lucretius)



To him who is in fear,
everything rustles.
(Sophocles)



Gluttony is not a secret vice.
(Orson Welles)



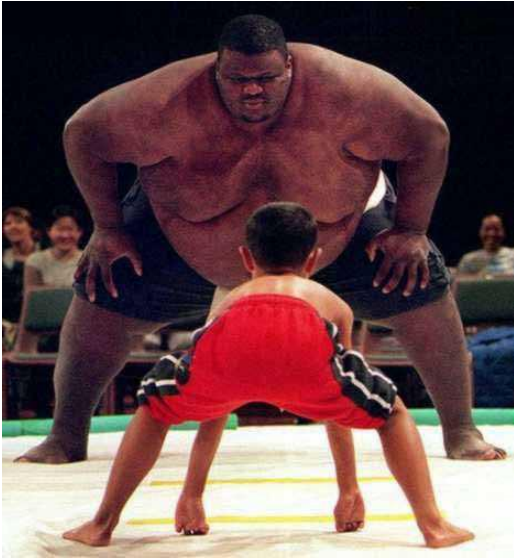
Up, sluggard, and waste not life;
in the grave will be sleeping enough.
(Benjamin Franklin)



Anger is momentary madness.
(Horace)



What has been long neglected
cannot be restored immediately.
Fruit falls from the tree
when it is ripe.
The Way cannot be forced.
(Buddha)



In great attempts it is glorious
even to fail.
(Vince Lombardi)



Failure is the foundation of success,
and the means by which it is achieved.
(Lao-Tzu)



As a child learning to walk falls
a thousand times before he can
stand, and after that falls again
and again until at last he can
walk, so are we as little
children before God.
(Hazrat Inayat Khan)



To be really sorry for one's
errors is like opening the
door of heaven.
(Hazrat Inayat Khan)



For of all sad words of tongue or pen,
the saddest are these: "It might have been!"
(John Greenleaf Whittier)

Our greatest glory is not in never
falling, but in rising every time
we fall.
(Confucius)

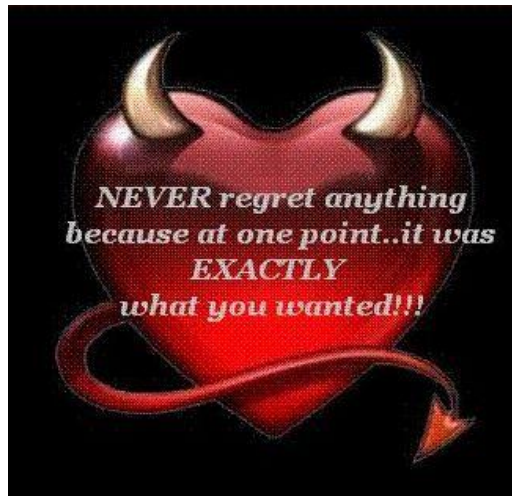


Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though
checked by failure... than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor
suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not
victory nor defeat.
(Theodore Roosevelt)



We must all suffer from one of two pains: the pain of discipline or the pain of
regret. The difference is discipline weighs ounces while regret weighs tons.
(Jim Rohn)

We forget that every good that is worth possessing must be paid for in strokes of daily effort. We postpone and postpone, until those smiling possibilities are dead.
(William James)



The worst thing one can do is not to try, to be aware of what one wants and not give in to it, to spend years in silent hurt wondering if something could have materialized – and never knowing.
(David Viscott)



All I can do is engage with complete sincerity.
Then, whatever happens, there is no regret.
(The Dalai Lama)



People with opinions just go around bothering one another.
(Buddha)



As a solid rock cannot be moved by the wind, the wise are not shaken by praise or blame.
(Buddha)



If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music that he hears, however measured or far away.
(Henry David Thoreau)



Judge not, and you shall not be judged; condemn not and you shall not be condemned; forgive, and you shall be forgiven.
(Jesus Christ)



The sage does not talk, the talented
ones talk, and the stupid ones argue.
(King Tingan)



The bell never rings of itself; unless
someone handles or moves it,
it is silent.
(Plautus)



The wise man does not argue;
he remains silent and goes quietly
on his path.
(White Eagle)



Be kind, for everyone you meet
is fighting a hard battle.
(Plato)



If we could read the secret history of
our enemies, we should find in each
person's life sorrows and suffering
enough to disarm all hostility.
(Henry Wadsworth Longfellow)



The keenest sorrow is to
recognize ourselves as
the sole creator of all
our adversities.
(Sophocles)



Gloom is an epidemic disease.
All those who come in contact
with gloomy people are
immediately affected.
A gloomy man should
cover his face when
he comes out.
(Swami Sivananda)



Difficulties show men what they are.
In case of any difficulty remember
that God has pitted you against a rough
antagonist that you may be a conqueror,
and this cannot be without toil.
(Epictetus)



Praise and blame, gain and loss,
pleasure and sorrow come and go
like the wind. To be happy,
rest like a great tree in the midst
of them all.
(Buddha)



Do not seek to have events happen as you want them to,
but instead want them to happen as they do happen,
and your life will go well.
(Epictetus)



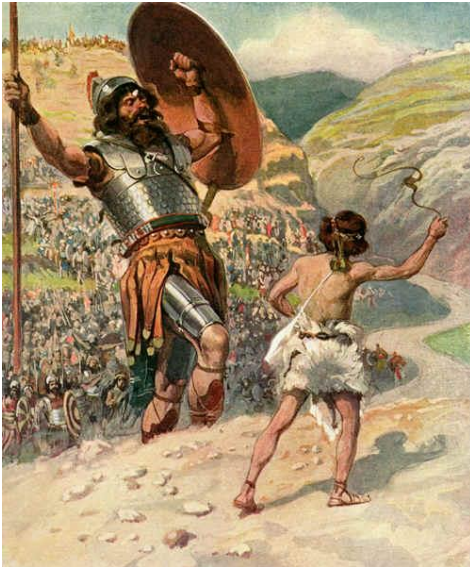
Life is like a game of cards.
The hand that is dealt you represents
determinism; the way you play it
is free will.

(Jawaharlal Nehru)



If all our misfortunes were laid in
one common heap, whence every
one must take an equal portion,
most persons would be contented
to take their own and depart.

(Socrates)



The basic difference between an
ordinary man and a warrior is that
a warrior takes everything as a
challenge, while an ordinary man
takes everything as a blessing
or a curse.

(Carlos Castaneda's Don Juan)



When you go to bed at night, have
for your pillow three things - love,
hope, and forgiveness. You will
awaken in the morning with a
song in your heart.

(Victor Hugo)



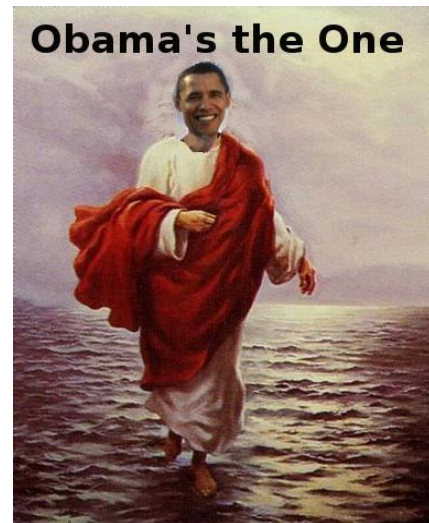
Send old men to the front to fight.
Ask them to give up their life.
Patriotism and bravado, will and
desire, wouldn't last the night.
Old men don't rush to death.
War is not possible if old men
are sent to fight.
(Mac McGovern)



We are told that when Jehovah created
the world he saw that it was good.
What would he say now?
(George Bernard Shaw)



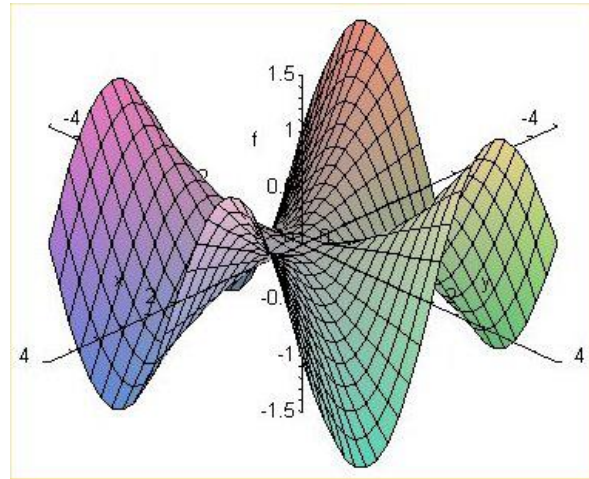
It is no measure of health
to be well adjusted to a
profoundly sick society.
(J. Krishnamurti)



If fifty million people say
a foolish thing, it is still
a foolish thing.
(Anatole France)



The hottest places in hell are reserved for those who in times of great moral crisis maintain their neutrality.
(Dante)



If you help others, you will be helped, perhaps tomorrow, perhaps in one hundred years, but you will be helped. Nature must pay off the debt. It is a mathematical law and all of life is mathematics.
(George I. Gurdjieff)



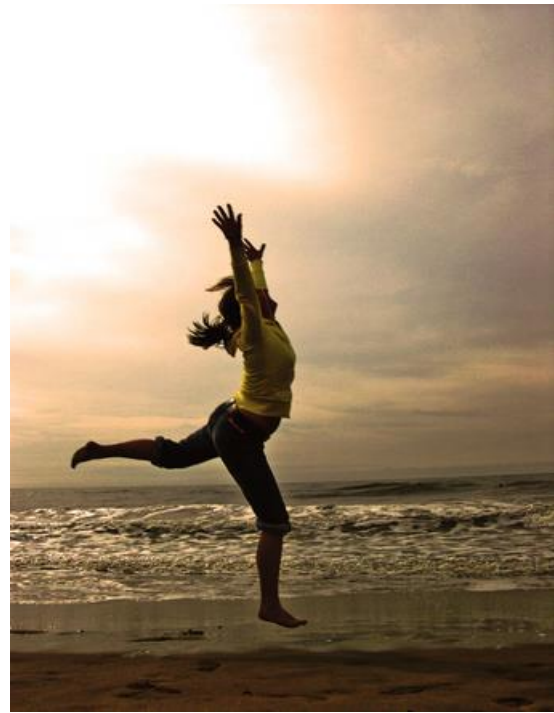
Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings when the dawn is still dark.
(Tagore)



Hope is effort, not wish; effort to make it so; not wish that it may be so.
(Gurdjieff)



Do not be too timid and squeamish
about your actions. All life is an
experiment.
(Ralph Waldo Emerson)



With passion pray. With passion
make love. With passion eat and
drink and dance and play. Why
look like a dead fish in this
ocean of God?
(Rumi)



I do not intend to tiptoe through
life only to arrive safely at death.



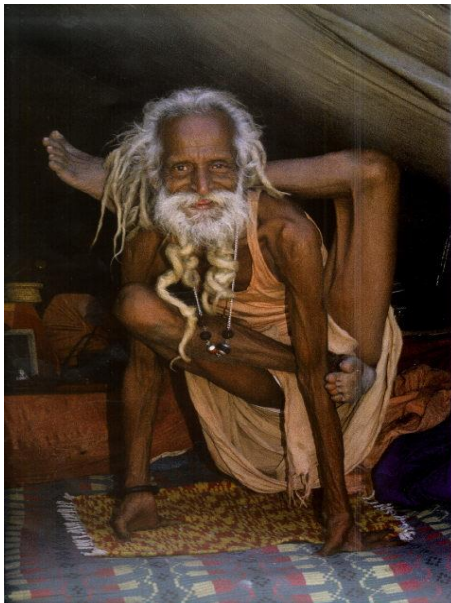
One regret, dear world, that I
am determined not to have
when I am lying on my
deathbed is that I did
not kiss you enough!
(Hafiz)



Stand upright, speak thy thoughts, declare the truth thou hast, that all may share; be bold, proclaim it everywhere: They only live who dare.
(Voltaire)



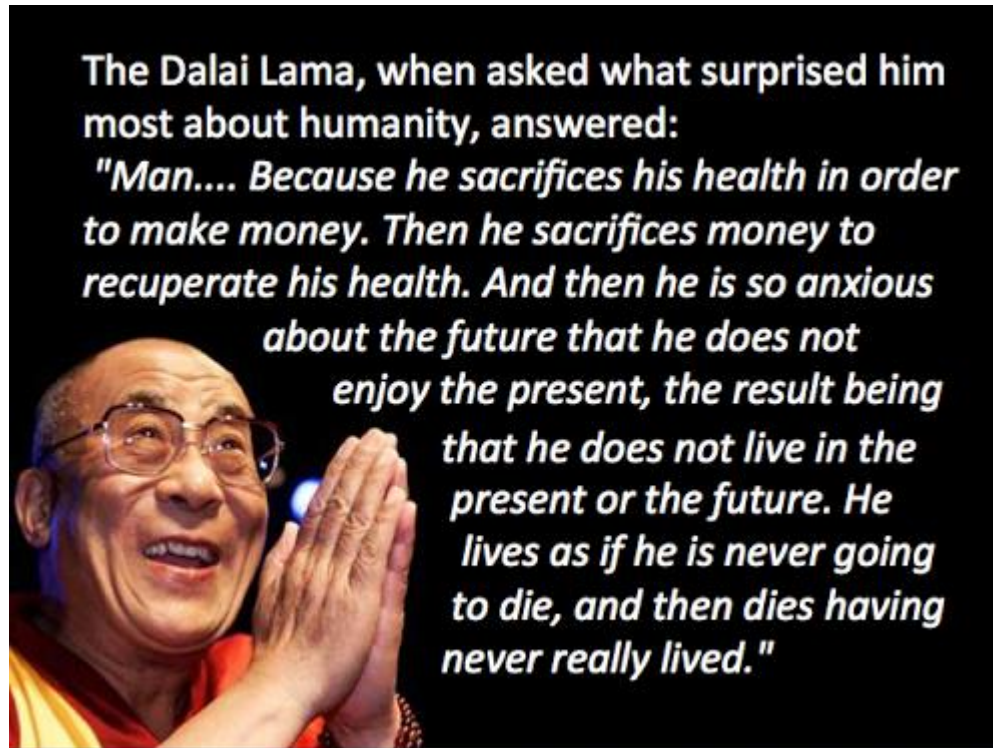
Where does poetry live? In the overpowering felt splendor every sane mind knows when it realizes - our life dance is only for a few magic seconds, from the heart saying, shouting, "I am so damn alive!"
(Hafiz)



For the ignorant, old age is winter; for the learned, old age is the harvest.
(Yiddish saying)



If you have peace of mind, contentment, old age is no unbearable burden. Without that, both youth and age are painful.
(Sophocles)



This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die. Life is no "brief candle" for me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations. (George Bernard Shaw)



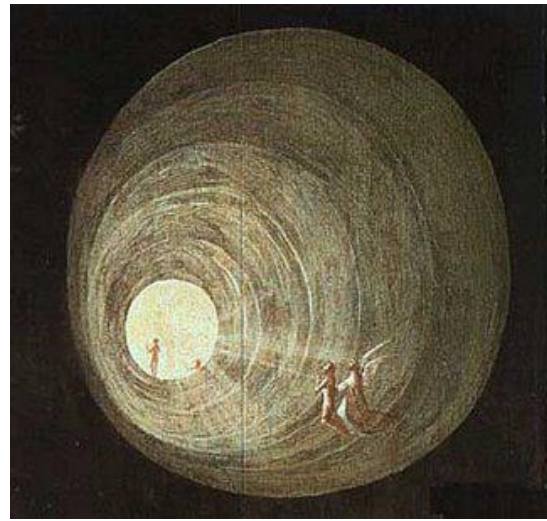
Those who dance are considered insane
by those who cannot hear the music.
(George Carlin)



He who cannot dance
claims the floor is uneven.
(Indian saying)



Death is the temporary end
of a temporary phenomenon.
(Buddha)



The tomb is not a blind alley; it is
a thoroughfare. It closes on the
twilight, it opens on the dawn.
(Victor Hugo)



No university will teach you how to live
so that when the time of dying comes,
you can say: "I lived well,
I do not need to live again."
(Nisargadatta)



The gods conceal from men
the happiness of death,
that they may endure life.
(Lucan)



Who knows but that this life is
really death, and whether death
is not what men call life?
(Euripides)



Death: where the changing mist of doubt
will vanish at a breath, and the mountain
peaks of truth will appear.
(Tagore)



The impermanence of the body
should give us great clarity,
deepening the wonder in our
senses and eyes of this mysterious
existence we share and are surely
just traveling through.
(Hafiz)



Death is a punishment to some,
to some a gift, and to many
a favor.
(Seneca)



You are living amidst the causes of death
like a lamp standing in a strong breeze.
(Nagarjuna)



Death is the bright side of life.
(Tennyson)



If I die, don't say that he died. Say he
was dead, became alive, and was taken
by the Beloved.
(Rumi)



The bitterest tears shed over graves
are for words left unsaid and deeds
left undone.
(Harriet Beecher Stowe)



Death plucks my ear and says,
"Live - I am coming."
(Virgil)

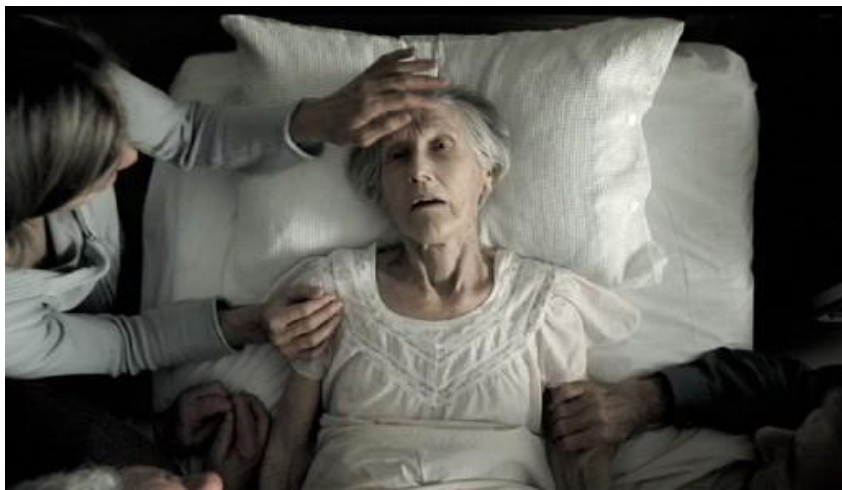
When I stand before Thee at the day's end, thou shalt see my scars
and know that I had my wounds and also my healing.
(Tagore)

The first sign of love to God is not to be afraid of death, and to be always
waiting for it. For death unites the friend to his Friend –
the seeker to the object which he seeks.
(Al-Ghazzali)



Body lying flat on a last bed,
voices whispering a few last words,
mind watching a final memory glide past:
When will that drama come for you?
(Seventh Dalai Lama)

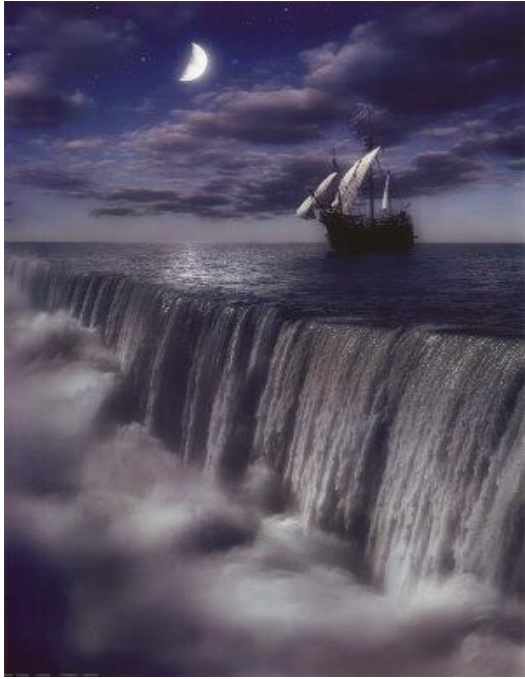
All things change; nothing perishes.
(Ovid)



We say that the hour of death cannot be forecast, but when we say this we imagine that hour as placed in an obscure and distant future. It never occurs to us that it has any connection with the day already begun or that death could arrive this same afternoon, this afternoon which is so certain and which has every hour filled in advance.
(Marcel Proust)



Never halting night or day,
My life drains constantly away,
And from no other source does increase come.
How can there not be death for such as me?
(Shantideva)



The ship you are riding on, look where it is heading: Your body's port is the graveyard. Realizing the destiny of each clay bowl tossed into the sky with no one to catch it I finally accepted the Beloved's kind offer to enroll in His sublime course of Spirit Love.
(Hafiz)



The soul is immortal and clothed in many bodies successively.
(Plato)

In a cemetery in England:
Remember man, as you walk by, as you are now, so once was I.
As I am now, you soon will be. Prepare yourself and follow me.



Every day, think as you wake up today I am fortunate to have woken up. I am alive! I have a precious human life. I am not going to waste it. I am going to use all my energies to develop myself, to expand my heart out to others, to achieve enlightenment for the benefit of all beings. I am going to have kind thoughts towards others. I am not going to get angry, or think badly about others. I am going to benefit others as much as I can. (The Dalai Lama)



The most beautiful people we have known are those who have known defeat, known suffering, known struggle, known loss, and have found their way out of the depths. These persons have an appreciation, a sensitivity, and an understanding of life that fills them with compassion, gentleness, and a deep loving concern. Beautiful people do not just happen. (Elisabeth Kübler-Ross)



When you carry out acts of kindness you get a wonderful feeling inside. It is as though something inside your body responds and says, yes, this is how I ought to feel. (Rabbi Harold Kushner)

If I can stop one heart from breaking, I shall not live in vain. If I can ease one life the aching, or cool one pain, or help one fainting robin unto his nest again, I shall not live in vain. (Emily Dickinson)

This life is yours. Take the power to choose what you want to do and do it well.
Take the power to love what you want in life and love it honestly. Take the
power to walk in the forest and be a part of nature. Take the power
to control your own life. No one else can do it for you.
Take the power to make your life happy.
(Susan Polis Schutz)



One of the most tragic things I know about human nature is that all of us tend
to put off living. We are all dreaming of some magical rose garden over the
horizon instead of enjoying the roses that are blooming
outside our windows today.
(Dale Carnegie)



When you are strong and healthy, you never think of sickness coming,
but it descends with sudden force like a stroke of lightning. When involved in
worldly things, you never think of death's approach; quick it comes
like thunder crashing round your head.
(Milarepa)

The biggest human temptation is to settle for too little.
(Thomas Merton)



Lord, remind me how brief my time on earth will be.
Remind me that my days are numbered,
and that my life is fleeing away.
(Psalm 39:4)



For every person who has ever lived there has come, at last,
a spring he will never see. Glory then in the springs that are yours.
(Pam Brown)



Life is as fleeting as a rainbow, a flash of lightning, a star at dawn.
Knowing this, how can you quarrel?
(Buddha)



What a wonderful life I've had!
I only wish I'd realized it sooner.
(Colette)



It is our way of seeing the world
that determines the nature
of our feelings.
(Thich Nhat Hanh)

A turtle lives in the ocean and every 100 years he comes up for air.
If that turtle was to rise for air and by chance put his head through a bucket
that was floating on the surface it would be extremely rare. Attaining a
precious human rebirth is even rarer than that.
(Buddhist)



How confusing the beams from memory's lamp are;
one day a bachelor, the next a grampa.
What is the secret of the trick?
How did I get so old so quick?
(Ogden Nash)

And some day there will be nothing left of everything that has twisted my life and grieved it and filled me so often with such anguish. Some day, with the last exhaustion, peace will come and the motherly earth will gather me back home. It won't be the end of things, only a way of being born again, a bathing and a slumbering where the old and the withered sink down, where the young and new begin to breathe. Then, with other thoughts, I will walk along streets like these, and listen to streams, and overhear what the sky says in the evening, over and over and over. (Hermann Hesse)



It was a privilege to have lived.
(Quoted in *Travels with Epicurus*)



I wanted to live deep
and suck out all the marrow of life...
(Thoreau)

Make me sweet again
Fragrant and fresh
Wild
Thankful for
Any small event.
(Rumi)



May your soul be happy;
journey joyfully.
(Rumi)

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